

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2016/0302144 A1 KASSLIN et al.

Oct. 13, 2016 (43) Pub. Date:

(54) METHOD, APPARATUS, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR EFFICIENT USE OF FREQUENCY BANDS AND CHANNELS IN WIRELESS ENVIRONMENT

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(21) Appl. No.: 15/040,032

(22) Filed: Feb. 10, 2016

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 62/144,505, filed on Apr. 8, 2015.

Publication Classification

(51) Int. Cl.

(2006.01) H04W 48/20 H04W 72/04 (2006.01)

(52) U.S. Cl.

CPC H04W 48/20 (2013.01); H04W 72/0486 (2013.01); H04W 84/12 (2013.01)

(57)ABSTRACT

A method to provide interoperable mechanisms for efficient use of frequency bands and channels in Wi-Fi networks, including receiving, by an access point device, a wireless request message from a wireless device, requesting information on candidate wireless networks; determining, by the access point device, whether the wireless device is associated with the access point device; and composing, by the access point device, a forwarding message to be transmitted by the access point device to a server, and including in the forwarding message an indication that the wireless device is associated with the access point device, if the wireless device is associated with the access point device.

ACCESS POINT (AP) 110A



STEP 502: RECEIVING, BY AN ACCESS POINT DEVICE, A WIRELESS REQUEST MESSAGE FROM A WIRELESS DEVICE, REQUESTING INFORMATION ON CANDIDATE WIRELESS NETWORKS;

STEP 504: DETERMINING, BY THE ACCESS POINT DEVICE, WHETHER THE WIRELESS DEVICE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCESS POINT DEVICE; AND

STEP 504: COMPOSING, BY THE ACCESS POINT DEVICE, A FORWARDING MESSAGE TO BE TRANSMITTED BY THE ACCESS POINT DEVICE TO A SERVER, AND INCLUDING IN THE FORWARDING MESSAGE AN INDICATION THAT THE WIRELESS DEVICE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCESS POINT DEVICE, IF THE WIRELESS DEVICE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCESS POINT DEVICE.